

Remarks

Claims 1-35 are pending in the application, and each was subject to a restriction and/or election requirement. By this paper, claims 8-9 and 11-13 are canceled, and claims 15-31 are withdrawn from consideration. Based on the following, examination of each of the pending claims is requested.

Election/Restriction

Applicants elect without traverse to prosecute Group II, comprising claims 1-14 and 32-35, drawn to a powertrain and method. Applicants do, however, respectfully traverse the election requirement imposed regarding the species identified according to type of: disconnect clutch, transmission, hydrogen storage, and electrical storage. PCT Rule 13.4 states that "[s]ubject to Rule 13.1, it shall be permitted to include in the same international application a reasonable number of dependent claims, claiming specific forms of the invention claimed in an independent claim, even where the features of any dependent claim could be considered as constituting in themselves an invention." Applicants respectfully submit that each of the species identified by the Examiner exists in a dependent claim that claims specific forms of one invention claimed in its associated independent claim.

The foregoing notwithstanding, Applicants note that of the species identified by claims by the Examiner, the hydrogen storage and electrical storage do not apply to the invention of Group II, and therefore no election of these species is appropriate. With regard to the claims associated with the species of disconnect clutches and transmissions, Applicants note that claims 8-9 and 11-13 are canceled by this paper. Thus, within the restricted invention chosen—i.e., Group II—there are no claims expressly directed to the species of the generic invention. Therefore, Applicants cannot within the current claim set elect any of the species identified by the Examiner, since none of these species is expressly claimed.

Although the Examiner states that "Applicant must elect a disconnect clutch, a transmission, hydrogen storage AND electrical storage embodiment," Applicants cannot make such an election, since there are no claims under consideration directed to any of these species. With regard to the Examiner's other direction, which states that the response "must include (i) an election of an invention to be examined... and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention," Applicants have complied with each of these directions. Based on the foregoing, examination of each of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

The Petition fee of \$120.00 is being charged to Ford Global Technologies, LLC Deposit Account No. 06-1510 via electronic authorization submitted concurrently herewith. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments as a result of the filing of this paper to Ford Global Technologies, LLC Deposit Account No. 06-1510.

Respectfully submitted,

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